

TIMES .10

YOUR MAGAZINE of Choice

Vol 3, Number 6 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 1996 EDMONTON, ALBERTA

- **One World
One Hope**

**AIDS: What's the
World Doing?**

pg. 6



- **Business**

pg. 18

- **Identity**

pg's . 8, 14 & 15

- **Fun**

pg's . 9 & 16



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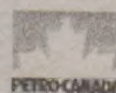


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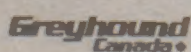
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 Edmonton, Alberta

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FYI: News & Notes from the HIV/AIDS Battlefront

"Morrison Receives Offers to Fight"

New York Times

George Foreman has said he will fight heavyweight Tommy Morrison, who announced that he wants to return to the ring despite the fact that he has HIV. Foreman is scheduled to fight Crawford Grimsley this November and has invited Morrison to fight on that undercard and reiterated his offer to fight Morrison next year. Morrison's manager Tony Holden said a Morrison may meet Foreman, but not in November.

"Some AIDS Cases Defy New Drug 'Cocktails'"

Wall Street Journal

Although new AIDS drug combinations including protease inhibitors have shown promise in reducing levels of HIV and boosting immune cells, doctors say that the therapies do not work for many patients. Perhaps up to 10 percent of patients taking the drug combinations do not have lasting results. Experts are debating which combinations are most effective and when treatment should be initiated. Moreover, because the new drugs were rushed to market, researchers do not fully understand how they work, and patients are essentially testing the therapies in on-going studies.

"Home Drug Test Kits"

Washington Post

A new home testing kit that allows parents to determine if their children are using drugs should not be kept off the market unless it is unsafe or inaccurate, contend the editors of the Washington Post. The editors compare the FDA's concern over the drug test to the agency's reluctance to approve a home HIV test kit—for fear that telephone counseling is not adequate for patients being told they have HIV. The writers argue that "this concern for the emotional and psychological impact of test results on patients and their families may be admirable. But it is not a reason for denying FDA approval on grounds of safety and efficacy."

"AIDS Is a Bi-Partisan Issue"

Washington Times

The issue of AIDS is being used by Democratic AIDS activists to diminish the Republican record and the accomplishments of the private-sector in an effort to promote President Clinton, AIDS Activist James Driscoll argues in a commentary in the Washington Times. Driscoll, the national AIDS policy advisor to the Log Cabin Republicans, points out that the Republican-controlled Congress reauthorized the Ryan White CARE Act, increasing funding for the program by 30 percent. He also says that the Republicans influenced regulatory reform at the Food and Drug Administration, all for the rapid approval of new AIDS drugs.

AIDS activists, meanwhile, credited Clinton with the Ryan White reauthorization and funding increase, Driscoll says, and overlooked the influence of the GOP congress on the FDA. Driscoll urges bipartisan leadership and solutions for AIDS policies, saying that the Republicans deserve credit for their contributions and that the White House should provide more leadership on AIDS.

"Indonesia, Vietnam Face AIDS Pandemic"

Washington Times

The number of people infected with HIV in Indonesia and Vietnam could be more than 1 million by the year 2000, increasing the number of infected people in Southeast Asia to more than 2 million, a regional task force reported Wednesday. Factors contributing to the spread of HIV in Indonesia include high-risk sexual behavior, poverty, widespread sexually transmitted diseases, and increasing population and mobility.

"Brazil Votes to Give AIDS Patient Free Drugs"

Reuters

Legislation that would provide free drugs to AIDS patients was approved by Brazil's Chamber of

Deputies on Tuesday, congressional officials said. "This bill will save the lives of people who are HIV-positive and cannot afford the cocktail of drugs," noted Green party deputy Fernando Gabeira, the author of the bill. The measure—already approved in the Senate—will be sent to President Fernando Henrique Cardoso for final approval. It is not yet known, said

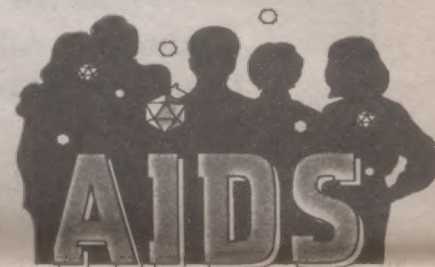
Gabeira, how much the government will have to spend to fulfill the terms of the new law.

"Fla. Employee Fired Over AIDS List"

Philadelphia Inquirer

William Calvert, a public health worker in Miami, was fired Wednesday for using a confidential list of almost 4,000 people with HIV and AIDS to check the status of potential dates.

Calvert allegedly took the computer disks to a gay bar and offered to look up names for his friends. Calvert was turned in anonymously when someone sent copies of the disk and a letter to two Tampa Bay area newspapers and the Pinellas County Health Department. An employee of the Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services since 1988, Calvert admitted to using the database on a laptop at his home, bypassing password protection used to keep the files confidential, but he claims he did nothing wrong. The incident has raised questions about the security of such records, and AIDS patient advocates assert that it is evidence of the risks involved in keeping a list of the names of HIV and AIDS patients.



THE FRONT PAGE

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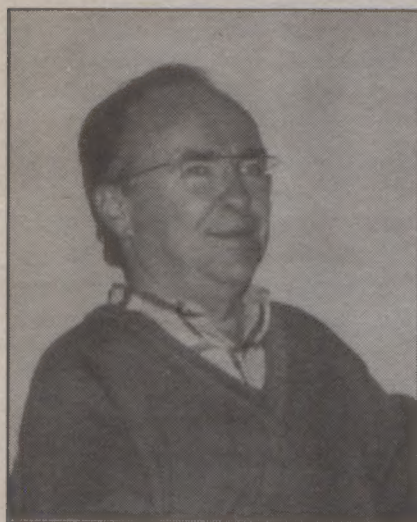
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Imagine Your Neighbourhood without Trees...

by Councilor Michael Phair



Although busy at work, I was catching my breath during the summer and missed the deadlines for my usual article in Times.10. But I am back on track, and it's time to catch up with the City!

Like so many other, I was bowled over by the beautiful fall we have had in

Edmonton. I don't remember a year where the colors were as brilliant as this year, and where so many leaves remained on the trees. The river valley, Old Strathcona, Mill Creek and Oliver were beautiful! Going through these and other similar neighborhoods made me look at what the city has done, and needs to do, so that Edmontonians might enjoy this beauty every year.

Ward 4, which I represent, is made up of older central neighborhoods. The challenge faced by residents is how to preserve and keep these communities livable yet change when appropriate. At the political level there are a number of items that I have or am, working on, starting with Elm trees.

Edmonton has the largest number of uninfected elm trees in the world. The elm tree disease has spread all across Europe and North America, and the beetle that spreads the disease has been found here. I successfully moved that the City increase its expenditures and education to manage this plight to our neighborhoods, and I think we have a good chance at succeeding. Implementing preventive measures can lead to losing no more than 5% of our 60,000 trees. Just imagine what your neighborhood would look like without these trees- a desolate thought.

A lot of time and effort on my part and thousands of citizens went into limiting the roadways that trucks could go on and the size of allowable trucks. The number of citizens at the City's public hearing made it the second most attended public meeting in history. Half of the proposed changes were to be made in Ward 4, and almost all the impact was on older central neighborhoods. I voted with the majority to not add new routes but lost the vote to limit the size of trucks on roadways-under the change 40% of trucks can go on any city street with the largest impact on the central neighborhoods.

What gets built in communities strongly influences their character and friendliness and there are tremendous pressures on older neighborhoods to allow more kinds of development. Citizens are concerned about the number of bars on Whyte Avenue, restaurants and bars in the middle of residential neighborhoods, "monster" house next to small bungalows, empty parking lots next to walkups, streetscape amenities and preserving historical buildings like Christ Church on 102 Ave. and 122 Street. I am involved with local planning efforts in Strathcona, Whyte Ave., Oliver and Central McDougall and Queen Mary Park to insure that new development fits, supports and strengthens local neighborhoods. Although time

consuming, such initiatives can lead to long term policy and directions that manage changes into the next century.

Finally, the City's central neighborhoods are made up of diverse groups of people. Under Mayor Smith, I was dismayed that Gay and Lesbian Awareness Day was not recognized. The comments made by certain Council members about the Vietnamese bordered on racism. Attacking these groups, who have large populations in Ward 4 threatens the fabric of these communities and undermines the

viability of the central city. My job is to work harder so that these actions do not happen again.

Although there are many other things happening in the city, a significant portion of my energy goes into keeping central neighborhoods livable, where all citizens enjoy a decent quality of life which includes picturesque autumns!

Councilor Michael Phair can be reached at 496-8146, fax 496-8113, or e-mail; mphair@wnet.gov.edmonton.ab.ca

Reminder; Nov. 3 Sunday Brunch with Michael Phair-"Report Card Time at City Hall", for info and tickets contact Maureen at 454-8031.

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World AIDS Day 1996

"One world. One hope"

On 1 December 1996, people around the world will observe World AIDS Day for the ninth time.

This year's theme - *One world. One hope* - is that of the 11th International Conference on AIDS, held in Vancouver in July this year. It reflects the fact that HIV and AIDS are global problems affecting all countries, and at the same time it invites us to be optimistic and build on some of the more hopeful trends now emerging. *One world. One hope* on World AIDS Day 1996 means working together to prevent the spread of HIV, and to build a global society which offers care and support to all those whose lives have been affected by the epidemic.

World AIDS Day has now become an annual event in most countries. Although 1 December is set as the date for the day, in many communities a range of activities are organized during the weeks and days before and after the official commemoration.

World AIDS Day provides an important opportunity to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS in the general public, to carry prevention messages into communities, to improve care for those infected by HIV, and to fight denial and discrimination. It is an opportunity to show solidarity with the over 22 million people who are today estimated to be living with HIV or AIDS and to remember the millions who have died. World AIDS Day can also serve to raise funds for HIV/AIDS projects in your own communities and to support national and international efforts to combat the epidemic.

Some of the kinds of activities that have been traditionally organized on World AIDS Day are:

candlelight vigils and marches;
mobile theatre and theatre performances;
poetry recitals;
public debates;
art exhibits;
marathon runs;
bicycle races;
poster competitions;
media prevention campaigns;
media briefings and seminars;
celebrity concerts;
celebrity sports events.

In however big or small a way, we hope you will join us this year.

World AIDS Day 1996: One World. One Hope

The theme of this year's World AIDS Day (1 December 1996) - *One World. One Hope* - echoes that of the 11th International Conference on AIDS held in Vancouver in July this year. "Improved drugs and drug combinations are bringing hope to infected people - at least those who can afford the new therapies," says Dr Peter Piot, Executive Director of UNAIDS. "On the prevention front, there is also hopeful news. The challenge is to ensure that these hopes extend to *all* those threatened by the epidemic."

The Day's activities and events aim to capture the upbeat spirit which is just starting to pervade work

surrounding the worldwide HIV/AIDS epidemic. For the first time since the epidemic began around 15 years ago, there are cautious grounds for optimism. The prospect of a world in which the spread of HIV and AIDS can be slowed, and the suffering they cause alleviated, is finally dawning.

Under the banner of *One World. One Hope*, World AIDS Day 1996 is an occasion for focusing public and official attention on the epidemic. The Day has now become an annual event in most countries. It is used by those responding to the epidemic to provoke public discussion of AIDS issues and promote the spread of up-to-date information. On the strength of good news, World AIDS Day 1996 should be a landmark occasion.

According to UNAIDS, the United Nations body coordinating the international response to the epidemic, it would be premature to imply that AIDS is on the run.

Over 22 million men, women and children are already living with HIV - the virus that causes AIDS - and others daily join them. More than three-fifths are in Africa and another fifth in Asia, which places the vast majority beyond the reach of the latest drugs and medical technology.



Every day, there are around 8,500 new HIV infections. About 1,000 occur in children under 15. Most of the remainder occur in people in the prime of their economic and reproductive life. An increasing proportion are in women, now representing 42% of HIV infections. Over half are in young people under 25 years old. Altogether, nearly 8 million people, including 1.5 million children under 15, have already developed AIDS since the epidemic began, and nearly 6 million have died. Over 9 million children under 15 have lost their mothers to AIDS.

AIDS is an appalling and continuing tragedy. It is not an outbreak and it is not going to go away. In many countries and societies, the epidemic is just emerging. In some, it is raging out of control. But the good news is that there are now places - both within the geography of the human body and within that of the world - where the AIDS virus has been put on the defensive. Their numbers are few but growing, and they are significant enough to suggest light at the end of a very long tunnel.

The medical breakthroughs: Combinations of drugs that act against HIV have been able to slow the progress of AIDS, even reducing the amount of virus in infected patients. In addition, one such drug - zidovudine (also called AZT) - has been shown to reduce the chances of transmission of the virus from an HIV-positive woman to her newborn child. However, because of their costs and the sophisticated monitoring they require, these medical breakthroughs are only available at present in high-income environments or for high-income patients. This is the downside of technological progress so far.

The prevention breakthroughs: Where vigorous efforts have been made to change social attitudes which pave the way for HIV, campaigns to encourage people to take self-protective action are showing definite results. These results include increased condom use in a variety of settings. They include postponing first sexual intercourse. For men in

particular, they include having fewer partners and visiting prostitutes less often. They include declines in the number of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) - a key achievement because a person with an STD is much more likely to contract HIV.

More important still: these efforts are managing to reduce the spread of HIV. This is happening not only in high-income environments such as Australia and Northern Europe, but in cash-strapped African countries such as Uganda. And it is happening in such countries in spite of the fact that a lower level of development inhibits both the spread of correct understanding about AIDS and the spread of services. When coupled with political determination to make the social and economic environment antipathetic to HIV, preventive strategies can and do work. In Thailand, a pioneer of AIDS action in Asia, HIV infections today are running at one-quarter of their 1990 level.

Putting the theme to use

How can the theme *One World. One Hope* be put to use by organizations and individuals undertaking activities for World AIDS Day 1996?

The *One World* theme invites us to be inclusive. This is a world in which no society, and no group within society, can remain immune to AIDS as the epidemic evolves and metamorphoses. But there are particular vulnerabilities and risks connected to age, sex or lifestyle. Involve women's groups. Involve youth. Involve people living with AIDS or HIV. Involve men having sex with men. Involve the military. Involve others whose occupations take them away from home, including long-distance drivers and seagoers. Involve those in tourism and sexual services. Fight prejudice, stigma, and discrimination, within ourselves and as expressed in social attitudes and regulations.

The *One Hope* theme invites us to be positive. Spread the message that prevention works. Open up dialogue about sexuality and behaviours which, when hidden, provide HIV with its point of entry. Encourage mutual fidelity. Encourage the use of condoms. Help change attitudes which leave women and youngsters without knowledge of their vulnerability and with little chance of refusing sex or negotiating safer sex. Offer care to those infected with HIV or living with AIDS in their families. Support the extension of care and preventive techniques to those otherwise excluded. Fight divisiveness, denial, and depression.

AIDS: The right to care

Ever since AIDS was identified as an untreatable and fatal condition, people with HIV and those close to them have prayed and clamoured for a cure. Today, over 22 million people are living with HIV, including 2 million with AIDS. So desperate do some become that they sell everything they own to buy a potion claiming miracle properties against the virus, or travel long distances in the hope that a rumoured cure will work. Today, medical science is finally coming up with combination drug therapies which offer hope of arresting the AIDS virus.

HIV - the human immunodeficiency virus - is a 'retrovirus'. Drugs that attack the virus itself are known as 'antiretrovirals'. Recent trials with combinations of new and existing antiretrovirals have shown that they can halt HIV's remorseless attack on the immune system, and even reduce the presence of HIV in a patient.

The impact of hopeful news surrounding treatment for HIV and AIDS must not be confined to a select and exclusive few. ***Ways must be found of making One World. One Hope apply to all.*** For more information on what Edmonton is doing for World AIDS Day contact Living Positive at 488-5768.



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(Door Prizes)

The No Name Fund-raiser...working together

There are many people to thank for the great work done on October 19th. To the management, staff, members and non-members at The Roost and Boots for supporting a Christmas fund for people living with HIV and AIDS. To the management, staff and gang at both Boystown Cafe and Buddy's Pub our gratitude for joining in for an evening that started in the Cafe at 8 p.m. To those kinda sick and twisted members of TAPS for a wonderful show of talent and expression. For all the "boys" in their dresses entertaining in several clubs during the same evening. Prizes came from Boots, Kamena Galleries, On the Dark Side and Lyon's Empire. It was kind of a frenzy of many talented people going from one place to another, doing their best for people they know and people that have No Names. Now we pass the work onto the shoulders of volunteers from Metropolitan Community Church, Living Positive and other members of our community to help in early December. Phase II will go into place in late November, when businesses within our community will be asked to have their customers and friends to leave canned goods and non-perishable items for the fund. We didn't get pictures of everybody, but what we did get, is worth more than thousands of words. Thank You!!



How to Have More *Love* in Your Life

by Reverend Charles M. Bidwell

Romans 12: 9-21: If you want to experience more of heaven on Earth, then wish the best for others; if you can't bring yourself to do that, then at least do not wish them harm.

That's the short answer; but what makes it challenging to live out is the pain we often feel. Pain is a part of being alive. If you don't sometimes feel pain, then you are not growing and are not alive to what's going on around you. But there is productive pain and there is senseless pain. Productive pain or suffering leads to growth and learning. Senseless pain should be numbed as soon as possible. By senseless pain, I mean the pain associated with headaches and trauma and disease. Once you have felt the pain (a physical warning to stop what is causing the pain), to continue to suffer is not helpful and I encourage you to do what you can to mask it. Take a pain killer and rest your injured body. Complaining about the pain, and doing nothing to relieve it, is an irritant to those about you. Care for yourself; treat/love yourself as you would your best friend. Love yourself as you love your neighbour.

By productive pain, I mean the painful experiences we encounter when we work at being in relationship with another person. Our words and actions, and their words and actions, are often misunderstood (another case where ignorance of the true intention causes suffering - "But I thought that meant that you..."). Productive pain sometimes starts out from ignorance (not knowing or understanding) and sometimes starts out from a basic negative life posture that suspects or believes the worst first, and never assumes the best interpretation or intention on the part of the other. With pain, we learn to check out our perceptions with the other. Having the courage to ask for clarification, and even to admitting our negative interpretation, can be painful, but it is productive pain because it results in learning more about the other person and how to understand their words and actions. The other productive pain we may encounter in that process is to learn from them how our words and actions affect their feelings. Think of the folks that you have had difficulties with recently. Did you check out your interpretation of their words and actions, or did you believe the worst and suffer senseless pain? If they meant to cause you pain, then they are under evil influences, and we need to pray for them to experience more love, more insight, more compassion in their lives; we need to wish the best for them - at least better than they are experiencing now.

If they meant to help you learn and improve your relationship(s), then they are wishing the best for you. While you are learning to deal with pain in your life, you might also want to deal with negative or depressive thinking. In some faith communities this is called "worm theology" - you know, the talk about "I am unworthy" and "woe is me, I am a sinner". But I say unto you that you are a child of God, and God doesn't make trash. So, to make room for more love in your life, repent from negative thinking. When you feel a negative emotion, evaluate its usefulness and consider repenting. Repent means to turn - to turn to a different direction. When you experience a destructive, inhibiting negative thought, try hard (it may be very challenging at first) to switch it to a positive direction. Sometimes what seems to be a negative, destructive emotion or thought is actually a positive, productive emotion or thought. Anger can

come from a feeling that an injustice has occurred and the anger gives you the energy to act to seek a just solution. Saying "No" to a request or invitation can be a positive action when it keeps you from agreeing to something that you are unwilling to do, or keeps you from taking on a responsibility that you cannot give the needed time and energy to fulfill. It's often a self-care response to say "No". On the other hand, negative emotions and thoughts are destructive when they keep you from accepting an opportunity to grow and learn. Replaying negative tapes in your mind that tell you how limited you are in ability is a destructive or inhibiting influence in your life. Risk ignoring them.

Taking on a new challenge may be painful but you'll know from that productive pain that you are alive and growing. When you are aware of a negative feeling or thought, evaluate it. If it is productive or energizing - then use it. If it is destructive and inhibiting your growth, then repent - change your perspective or attitude to a more positive, productive feeling or thought (even if you have to fake it at first). Each negative emotion that rules our actions has a positive counterpart that we can turn to. If we train ourselves to stop for a moment when a destructive negative appears to us, then we can use that moment to repent it into a more positive idea. When you feel jealous, stop, repent, and think how positive that situation is for that person: wish them the best, and the best will come rebounding back to you. To get more love in your life, deal with productive pain and look for the positives in your life. What does this say: "heaven is nowhere"? If you see it as reading "heaven is no where," then it's time to repent and try looking at it as "heaven is now here". If you can't find any heaven in your life, then set about trying to make some in another person's life - volunteer, visit, ask if you can be of any help. "Happiness is like peanut butter you can't help getting some on your self when you spread it around." [The Gospel of Peanuts].

Reverend Charles M. Bidwell, Ph.D

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Dear Sassy

Dear Sassy: I was attending a dinner party, and this queen used her dinner fork for salad, so I used my

salad fork and stabbed her. Is this improper etiquette?

Seriously Forked

PS I just love your column, and the blue eye shadow hint was fabulous. I wore it to my mother's funeral. I set standards.

Dear Forker: What a grisly dinner party. I wish I could have attended, but alas my housekeeper has been playing games with my social life, but that's another column. Although my first instinct when dealing with barbarians is usually mutilation, one must remember that bloody dinner guests, without the proper hostess, can ruin a refined banquet. So, in the future, I suggest maybe a diminutive cough and minor concession towards the legitimate eating utensil. If this does not work, then by all means impale the bitch. The ignorant deserve it.

Dear Sassy, why do pathetic, fat, balding, short, ugly gay men insist on being seen?

Adonis

Dear Husk: You may have been lucky enough to have been touched with the pretty wand, unfortunately you were also thwacked with the stunned stick. If having average, ordinary human beings around and about constitutes a problem, maybe you should spend more time at home with your best friend, Mr. Mirror. Have a conscientious look at yourself and think about what you have to offer the community. As my Great Grand Mama Willow once said, "Nice house, but nobody lives there." In other words Adonis, get a personality.

Dear Sassy: Now that my reign is over, do you have any suggestions on what I can do with my crown, other than using it for a candy dish or ashtray.

**Royally Yours,
Tootsanelda Whoofenpeekhole
Dowager Empress XX**

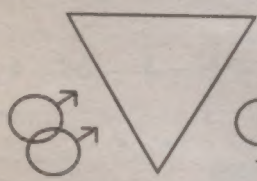
Dear Toots: Many a royalty have asked me the very same question. Whatever you decide upon doing with your royal headpiece, **do not** turn it into an ashtray, candy dish or break it down into earrings. Earrings have been so done and this practice has become a major faux pas in celebrity circles around the globe. Besides, a matriarch never knows when she will be in dire need of a tiara for those distinguished evenings of fun, frolic and frivolity.

If, however, you are set not to keep your royal bonnet a crown, there are many things that can be done with it, besides putting it into hawk. I, personally, have altered my tiara into a stash for condoms and have it displayed elegantly above the bed. Of course, you can stash what you like in it.

I have also found that my crown doubles nicely as a hood ornament. A pink Cadillac tends to blend in at Pride Parades, but everyone notices the Royal Motorcade.

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Angels in America

by Richard Kennair

Two Couples in New York City at the height of Reaganism in the mid-1980's. It doesn't sound like a concept that would generate a lot of controversy.

However, when it is Tony Kushner's multi-award winning play "Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes, Part Two" ... it generates MUCH more controversy than it may seemingly deserve. Noted by Director Jim Guedo (formerly Artistic Director of the Phoenix Theatre) as one of the most honored plays in American drama history, both parts of Angels in America have swept up the awards. While it has generated some controversy in the past, this controversy has been nothing compared to what has gone on here in Alberta. Guedo notes that Part One played in Manitoba with none of the controversy that has swept segments of our notably conservative population. What is so controversial about this play? According to Guedo, Kushner didn't write it to "titillate or incite

controversy"; rather the play may be frightening as it challenges preconceptions of normalcy. The challenge arises in part in the portrayal that two men can have a loving and understanding relationship. The controversy overshadows, and at times belittles, the meaning of the play - the thoughts that are supposed to be provoked. So what is the message of the play? Overall, it could be said that HOPE is the primary concern. As Guedo stated ... "We live in an age of despair. We go on, but to go on we must have hope - TRUE hope, not simplistic or naive hope. Only

through True hope can one go on when every step may be worse than what you arrive at." Kushner didn't want to write an AIDS play where the character dies at some point; he wanted to write a play where the HIV+ character lives.

He wants to show that people DO and CAN go on. Kushner argues that we must move forward, and that change is good. Though life is painful

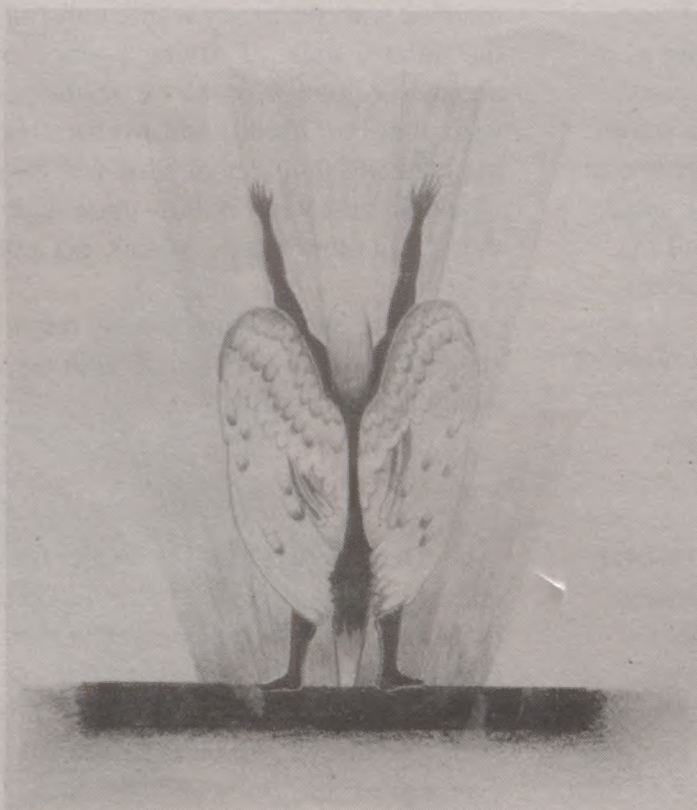
we must move forward. It is through true hope that we are given the strength to move forward. Doesn't this make the play sound oh so heavy and serious? Yes there may be an important and serious message. But at the same time it has wildly funny moments. A play that, combining both parts, is on an epic scale (7 hours), it has to have a bit of everything in it - and it does. Seeing Angels in America Part One is not necessary in order to follow

along in Angels in America Part Two. One

can watch Angels in America Pt. Two and still be fully cognizant of the whole story. True,

watching both parts may be more fulfilling (especially when they are running back to back. As

Guedo states though, there is so much to the play(s) that Kushner doesn't expect you to see everything. It is a play to be experienced. In case you haven't been downtown recently, and seen the wall sized "Angels 2", Angels in America Pt. Two, plays on the Shooter Stage at the Citadel, Starting on October 30th.



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Gay Games

1998: Province Of

North-Holland Grants Dfl 150,000

(\$ 91,000) Subsidy To The 1998 Amsterdam Gay Games

On April 2, 1996, the Deputy Council of the Province of North-Holland decided to grant Stichting Gay & Lesbian Games Amsterdam 1998 a subsidy of Dfl 150,000 (\$ 91,000) for the organization of the Gay Games.

In an earlier stage, the subsidy was turned down by the Deputy Council. Members of several political parties asked to put the subsidy back on the agenda of the Provincial Council meeting. During this meeting Marjo Meijer, chair of the Stichting, explained the view of the organization on this matter, and stressed important aspects of

the Gay Games that will benefit the province of North-Holland, amongst others:

- 12,000 participants and 100,000 visitors will use many facilities in and around Amsterdam, including hotels, camp sites, specially created cycle and hiking tracks.

- it is estimated that the Gay Games will generate Dfl 150 million (\$91 million) for the region.

- the cultural festival will give the region a cultural

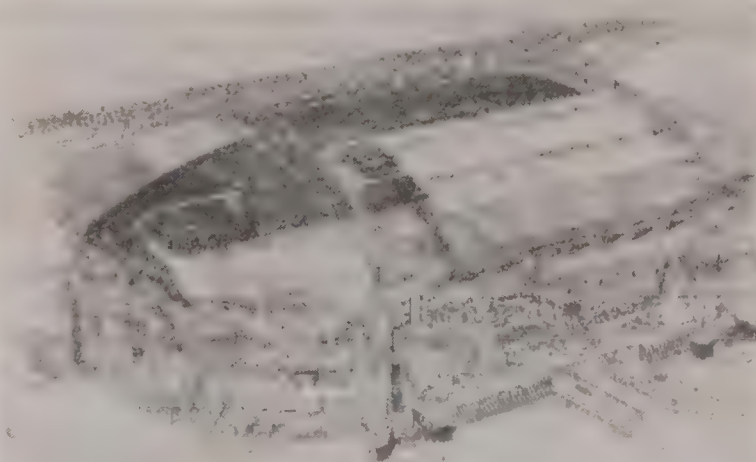
stimulus and will attract visitors from the region.

- the Gay Games will be a visible event that will strengthen the image of Amsterdam, the

province of North-Holland and the Netherlands as a tolerant place where everyone is able to be oneself and partake in activities in the open.

Fortunately, Ms. Meijer was able to convince the Deputy Council of the economic and

cultural importance of the Gay Games for the region. Consequently the Deputy Council did not wait for the outcome in the Provincial Council and decided to grant the subsidy



Queeries Returns for Second Season

New Day, New Time

CJSR FM 88.5 Radio is honoured to announce that Queeries has been renewed for a second season with self-proclaimed Queer Media Slut Todd Janes.

For its' second season, Queeries will produce a full scheduled season of programming in its' familiar half-hour format. Some of the topics that Queeries will explore this season include: suicide, queer students and teachers, choosing a doctor, the Queer Media, Gay and Lesbian theatre, queer music, body image, spousal abuse, parenting, substance abuse and those darlings queer youth. In addition, there will be featured interviews with Janis Ian, Persimmon Blackbridge and a whole lot of local and national personalities. Join Todd Janes on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. on CJSR FM 88.5

ARGRA (Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo Association)

November 9, 1996: ARGRA Dance (8 pm to 2 am) at Victoria Park Community Centre, 1302 - 6th Street SE., Calgary (Hotline: 541-8140)

December 14, 1996: Third Annual Christmas Craft Fair (1 to 5 pm) followed by the ARGRA Cowboy Christmas Dance (8 pm to 2 am). Both events are being held at Victoria Park Community Centre.

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Our SUPPORT Groups & SERVICES

If you are an Edmonton based Gay or Lesbian Community non-profit group and wish to be included in this directory send a short description to Times .10 Magazine, 10121-124 St, Edmonton, AB T5N 1P5 or Fax us at 488-6927

Edmonton's Gay Community Support Groups and Services

● AIDS Network of Edmonton Society

The Network retains its original operating philosophy: to provide support and education wherever it can be helpful in north-central Alberta. AIDS Network of Edmonton works cooperatively with all those organizations in Alberta and across the country who are working to help limit the spread of HIV infection. Today the network provides: Education, Info-Line, Speakers Bureau, Resource material and various Support groups. If you wish to know more about the Network call 488-5742

● Alcoholics Anonymous

A A is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. Call 424-5900 for times and places of Gay and Lesbian meetings.

● AXIOS - Edmonton

AXIOS is an international organization of Eastern Orthodox and Eastern-Rite Catholic Gay and Lesbian Christians. Our mandate is to promote a greater understanding of human sexuality and spirituality within the Eastern Christian tradition. The AXIOS monthly newsletter is available via the Internet. Contact Dushan at 454-8449 for more information.

● Dignity Edmonton

This Edmonton chapter is a support community for gay, lesbian Catholics and friends. Contact Bernard at 451-1794 or Dennis at 482-6845

● Edmonton Prime Timers

Prime Timers is a social fraternity for older gay and bisexual men and their friends. The purpose of Prime Timers is to provide an opportunity for mature gay men to fraternize and join together in a program of social activities. Meetings held 2nd Sunday each month at the Unitarian Church at 3:00 p.m. If you would like more information address correspondence to Chairman, Edmonton Prime Timers, Suite 1093, 11444 - 119 Street, Edmonton, T5G 2X6. Contact Terry at 477-3463.

● Edmonton Vocal Minority

We are a group of women and men who join together in a common love for music, and the desire to build a greater spirit of unity and pride in the gay and lesbian community. We strive to bridge the gap which can separate us from the mainstream of society. Persons who wish to sing with the choir should call David at 424-1561. Support members are welcome to join by phoning Lorna at 423-6987.

● Feather of Hope Aboriginal AIDS Prevention Society

The Feather of Hope was founded on a need to provide AIDS education and support to Native People in Alberta. Through education and the

development of communities in partnership, it is hoped that the spread of AIDS will be lessened. We offer training and education programs, as well as support through traditional ways. Volunteers are very important to us, if you can help, or would simply like some more information call 488-5773

● Gay and Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton (G.L.C.C.E.)

The centre contributes to the well-being of Edmonton's gay, lesbian and bisexual community through informational, social support services and its social information line. The services offered by the centre include an information line, telephone referrals, library, drop-in peer support counselling and social activities arranged and sponsored by the centre. Further information is available at 482-2294

● Gaylines

A special telephone service is available. The intent of this line is to aid in the forming of a central information net that will aid all walks of life. Messages are outgoing only. The line is set up in a single location that will be permanent and will also be listed in the phone directory. It is free to all Alternative Lifestyles, Support groups, Clubs, Individuals and Businesses. Call 486-9661 to request your mailbox.

● Gay and Lesbian Awareness (G.A.L.A.)

We are an organization interested in human rights issues especially related to sexual orientation and changing Federal and Provincial legislation. We are always interested in new members. If you are interested call David Sanders at 487-2684.

● Illusions Social Club

A social club for Crossdressers, Transsexuals and their supporters. Our main goal is to provide a safe, discreet and friendly atmosphere where we can socialize as a group. We also provide information and peer support for members. We hold two socials each month, one on the second Thursday and one on the third Saturday. For more information write to Illusions Social Club, Box 33002, Glenwood P.O., Edmonton, AB, T5P 4V8; or phone either 486-3432 (GLCCE) on Tuesday evenings to talk to someone person to person or 486-9661 box 1 to leave a message.

● Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose

The mission of the Court is to raise funds for charities and other organizations which either provide direct services to gay and lesbian individuals. Meetings of the Society are held monthly on the last Wednesday. For meeting location and time please see the Court notice boards in Boots and Saddle or the Roost. You may also call Gaylines at 486-9661 and press box 27.

● Interfaith Association on AIDS Edmonton

The purpose of this association is to sensitize local faith communities and their leaders to the unique spiritual and emotional needs of those infected by HIV/AIDS. The following faith communities are included: Anglican, Baha'i, Baptist, Beth Shalom Synagogue, Lutheran, Metropolitan Community Church, Roman Catholic, Temple Beth Ora, Ukrainian Catholic, Unitarian and United Churches. Phone 448-1768 for more information.

● Les-Bi-Gay Darts Club

This is an informal and social dart club. No previous experience is necessary. We are here to have some fun and meet each other in an open atmosphere. There are no fees. We gather at GLCCE the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM. Call 428-8847 or 421-4427.

● Liaison Committee, The

In June of 1993 Edmonton Police Service and the Gay and Lesbian community for met a liaison to promote an atmosphere of understanding and mutual respect. For more Info call Edmonton Police Service at 424-7248 (pager 293) or Murray Billet at 482-7421

● Lipstick Lesbian Youth Peer Support

This is an organization intended to allow all femme lesbians and bisexuals the chance to meet and realize that they are not alone. Our goal is not to segregate the lesbian community, but to acknowledge that femmes do exist. This is an opportunity to meet and socialize with other femmes. Please call 988-4836 for more information.

● Living Positive

Emotional, spiritual and psychological support is available through Living Positive to all those affected by HIV infection. We offer strong, loving, confidential support. We also meet weekly and share our mutual experiences. Living Positive is entirely directed by and for people who share a common diagnosis of HIV+. Peer counselling, hospital visits and a speakers bureau are also available through our society. Phone 488-5768

● Lutherans Concerned: Edmonton

We are a spiritual community for lesbian, gay, bisexual and straight people. Lutherans Concerned gathers monthly for worship, sharing, and friendship. We offer individual support and a safe space for our own spiritual questions. Call Tim at 433-1697, or write P.O. Box 11095, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3K4 e-mail: luthconc@freenet.edmonton.ab.ca

● Metropolitan Community Church of Edmonton (M.C.C.)

We are a local church within the denomination of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Our major focus is to the defranchised of society. The UFMCC allows anyone to feel a part of the Christian Community and to claim our place in God's Universe. Services are open to all. We worship on Sunday evenings at 7:15 at McDougall United Church - South entrance. Please feel free to join us! Call 429-2321 for more information.

● Northern Chaps

Edmonton's Leather-Fetish club for Gay, Lesbian, and straight men and womyn was established six years ago. We strike to educate the rest of the community through workshops, staged demonstrations and events in order to heighten awareness. Northern chaps meets at Boots & Saddle on the first and third Friday of each month at 9 PM.

● Northern Titans

Northern Titans is the Gay and Lesbian bowling league in Edmonton. You are welcome to join either as a team member or a drop in. There is a \$12.00 charge for

shoes and three games. The 96/97 bowling season starts in September. Call 454-1458 for Info.

● OUTreach

OUTreach is a university based organization for gays, lesbians and bisexuals interested in an academic atmosphere. Meetings are held every Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. on campus; main floor of the Athabasca hall. Topics vary from week to week. Additional information is available by calling 988-4166.

● PFLAG

Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of the month. For more Info phone Cindy at 459-8379, Newsletter editor Ellen at 465-3057. Outreach to speak confidentially to a PFLAG volunteer 944-1394. Voice Box 3524 (PFLAG) Mon-Thurs, 7-9:30 p.m. (Recording 24 hrs a day).

● Pink Triangle Youth of Edmonton (P.T.Y.E.)

The Pink Triangle Youth Group is a program offered by the Community Centre. The youth group exists so that young people age 16 to 21 - lesbians, gays, bisexuals and those wondering about their sexuality can explore their feelings, meet other young people like themselves. Information is available to all along with fun in a safe, supportive environment. Phone 906-6221 for more information about the Youth Group

● S.O.L.O.

Social Organization for Lesbians Only is a group that gets together for fun and recreation. Lesbians over 18 are welcome to join in for weekend functions and entertainment. We combine friendship, companionship and support with singles and couples welcome. Call Linda at 447-4776 for more information

● Team Edmonton

Team Edmonton - Gay Games Association is set up to provide an opportunity for person interested in participating in the Gay Games through fund raising. If you would like to be involved with Team Edmonton call 486-9661 Box 16 or 482-2789

● Visions - Unitarian Church of Edmonton

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender discussion group. We meet the 4th Wednesday of the month. Call UCE at 454-8073 or Anita at 454-1992. Not necessarily Christian.

● Womonspace

The purpose of Womonspace is to foster a positive Lesbian identity among ourselves and the larger community. We hold dances, produce a newsletter and hold other activities. For information call the Lesbian Life at 425-0511.

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Positive Gay Identity: "keenly alive and exuberant"

by Kevin Alderson, M.Sc., Ph.D. Candidate
Chartered Psychologist

"Better to be hated for what I am, than to be loved for what I am not."
(André Gide, quoted in Tremblay, 1994, p. 18)

...Positive gay identity. A few years ago I didn't know what it meant to be gay, let alone what it would mean, someday, to beam with the radiance that comes with self-realization, and later self-acceptance. One of the definitions of the word "gay" in Webster's dictionary is "keenly alive and exuberant". That says it well for me.

I know each of us has different issues to face. I, for example, am 40 years old, I have two children, I have been a psychologist for ten years, and yet I only came out three years ago. Why did it take so long? I have asked myself this many times, initially with guilt, and now only with sorrow... but thank God I have the chance to finally live my life with integrity. I have often wondered if there is anything more important than this. Being true to yourself is the lesson I most want to teach my children. I finally know how I am in private practice, and I am also working on my Ph.D. in counseling psychology. I feel blessed that I have had the opportunity to touch people's lives in meaningful ways, as others have touched mine. My coming out was more painful, more disturbing, more exuberant, and more meaningful than anything I have ever experienced. My doctoral research is looking at the experience of men who have achieved a positive gay identity. It is a mirror of my own salvation. We are nothing without a strong sense of our own identity, and a love of that which we see when the mirror's glow is a reflection of our own brightness.

As you might imagine, I have a ton of material on gay identity. I haven't read it all yet, as my reading speed is only marginally faster than a tortoise moving full throttle. I know that once I get rid of the shell, things will speed up immensely. Old scripts die hard. Have you ever had the experience of having a straight person ask you why you think it is important to tell people you're gay, when it would seem strange to the straight person to say to someone "Hello, my name is _____, and I'm a heterosexual"? That has happened to me before. Is gay identity any different from straight identity, other than as it relates to our sexual orientation? I believe that gay identity is a very important construct, and it will remain so, at least until we are no longer a part of a stigmatized minority.

Why do I believe this? Let me explain:

The concept of acquiring a positive gay identity would have been considered an oxymoron by mental-health professionals and most other Canadian citizens just over twenty-five years ago. Homosexual behavior was considered a criminal offense in Canada until 1969 (Lee, 1977). Homosexuality was considered a mental disorder by the American Psychiatric Association until its removal from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual in 1973. In 1975, The American Psychological Association responded accordingly with this declaration that:

homosexuality, per se, implies no impairment in judgment, stability, reliability, or general social or vocational capabilities; further, the American Psychological Association urges all mental-health professionals to take the lead in removing the stigma of mental illness that has long been associated with homosexual orientation (Conger, 1975, p. 633).

In spite of these significant changes to law and policy, gay individuals continue to suffer prejudice and discrimination (Blumentfeld & Raymond, 1993). A

recent example is the decision Friday, February 23, 1996 by the Alberta Court of Appeal which ruled that "the province's human rights laws do not have to include special protection for homosexuals" (Johnson, 1996), thereby supporting the well-publicized termination at King's College in 1991. Decisions like this one are a painful reminder to us that our oppression is real, and the constant struggle engendered by gay persons in confronting homophobia and heterosexism is not without its cost.

The cost of homophobia and heterosexist thinking is staggering to our young people. These have been associated with school problems, running away, substance abuse, and prostitution (Savin-Williams, 1994). Male homosexual teenagers account for 30% of all successful adolescent suicides (Savin-Williams, 1994, see Kroll & Warneke, 1995 for an extensive review), which is an alarming percentage when considering that the prevalence of homosexuality in adolescents is estimated at 8.9% (Kroll & Warneke, 1995). The risk of suicide is especially high in "closeted" youth (Kroll & Warneke, 1995).

Although gay youth develop biologically and cognitively the same as heterosexuals, their development is emotionally and socially impaired (McFarland, 1993; Malyon, 1982). Homosexual teenagers know they are different, and they commonly feel alienated and alone (Troiden, 1979). Whereas heterosexuals generally date first before experiencing sexual intimacy, the situation is generally reversed for gay youth (Martin, 1982; McFarland, 1993). This reversal is likely due to the unacceptability for youth to date others of the same gender. As young gay males turn to casual sex to find physical intimacy, they also increase

their risk of contracting AIDS. Although adolescents represent only 2% of AIDS cases in the United States, their number has been doubling every 14 months (Brownsworth 1992 stats, cited in McFarland, 1993). Adolescents feel great turmoil in acquiring a gay identity (Russell, 1989), and they have great difficulty in seeing anything positive about being gay (Remafedi, 1987).

Can you blame them for feeling this way? The gay stereotypes do not describe the majority of our community, but they thrive nonetheless with the uninformed. Hetrick and

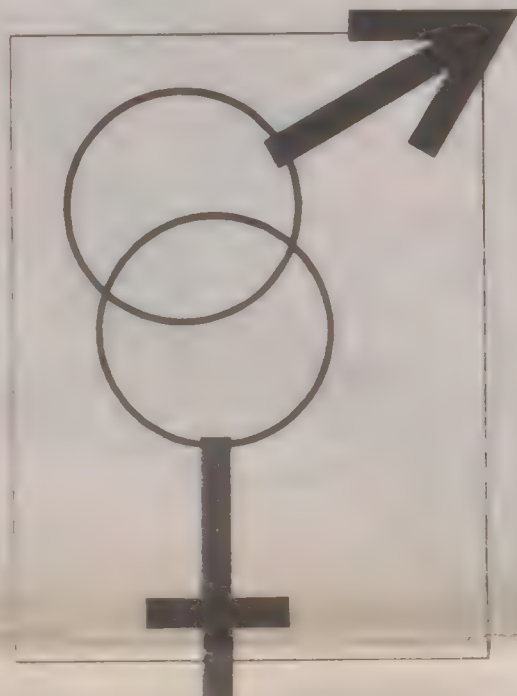
Martin (1984) provide some less commonly-held beliefs about gay people in their book. In the past, for example, homosexuals were blamed for destroying civilizations, a well-respected sexologist reported they could not "whistle", they apparently lacked body hair, they caused the Second World War and the American defeat in Vietnam, they were child molesters, they were unhappy, and they could not form mature non-sexual friendships with either sex. If these beliefs were true, who of us would want to belong to this group?

The more commonly held stereotypes kept me in the closet for many years. I thought I would have to be

effeminate, promiscuous, superficial, fickle, uncommitted, plastic, and irresponsible. The fact is, you can share none of these traits, some of them, or all of them, and it really is okay. You are entitled to be you in the gay community, and don't let anyone tell you differently. If you have traits that you or others find undesirable, remember that growth occurs when you are ready to take the next step. Life can be experienced at your rate.

The adult gay community has also suffered tremendously from homophobia and heterosexism. Many adults do not come out until they are in their thirties, and then suffer something akin to a "delayed adolescence" (Malyon, 1982). This is analogous to being a teenager trapped inside an adult body. Sexual desire is no longer repressed, which itself can seem a bit overwhelming. Emotional development has been delayed as the establishment of gay relationships have not had the opportunity to develop. The awareness that their feelings are chronologically misplaced creates great psychic pain.

In conclusion, we need to define ourselves as gay for our own mental health. When we choose to tell others, it is because we value ourselves and our relationships to others so highly that we are not willing to present ourselves as anything other than what we are. There is always a right time to do this, and if you are young and reading this article, please do not assume that you must tell your family today because of what I am writing. If you are living at home, you need to consider the cost of coming out to your family. I do not want to see you homeless as a result. Gay identity is distinct from straight identity because we are oppressed. I suspect that until enough of us are able to be out in most, if not all, walks of life, the oppression will continue. When people get to know us, however they will come to see what Don Clark wrote about us in 1977: we are loving people. By God, he was right. As I have come to know me, and you, I have come to appreciate his wisdom more fully each day. We are beautiful people. Let's celebrate.



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Being The Knight I Am

by René

My skating experiences started towards the end of my teens. There was this arena close by, and it was the thing to do back then so, with a group of friends, we decided to try it. It did not take me

long to find out that a blade of steel on ice does not make a sure footing. That fact did not prevent me however from participating in a game of tag, skating or gliding across the ice as the circumstances demanded. After several sessions, I remember one particular instance when I made a serious effort. My pride was at stake then: I had invited a girl I was attracted to (strange how with the same letters you can create "skate" or "stake", and how one can be dependent of the other). Our skills were very similar and we were happily coasting along, hand in hand, chatting idly: me attempting to be congenial, her praising a rival, unknown to me before the invitation. Everything was going smoothly (at least as far as the skating was concerned) until the antics of another couple - performing artistic figures on a general admission day - brought them dangerously close to us. They were masters of the art, the onus was on them . Unfortunately, they did not know that

and were expecting an elegant avoiding maneuver beyond our realm of possibilities. The inevitable occurred and a very annoyed cavalier proceeded to forcefully extol our ineptitude. Being the knight I am, I quickly donned my shining armour and threw back a resounding challenge but, unable to control the law of physics that dictates a body in motion will remain in motion indefinitely, in space (and an ice rink is very close to weightless space), it lost more and more of its acuteness as the distance between us grew. Nonetheless, not one to be put off easily, I decided to perfect my blooming art, leaving out the romance. I listened avidly to every advice and resolved to put them in practice.

The first order of business was "how to stop".

After the above experience, if it was not an essential requirement, it could be useful and a face saving skill. However, the demonstration was too impressive and I resolved to pass onto the second order: "how do you turn ?". Stopping, I could always manage with the help of the banister, and the logic said that if I could turn, I would not need to perform an emergency stop. It is a matter of priority. The move seemed simple enough : "just place one foot in front of the other. and so on - in turn." Well.... I tried it... I will spare you any lengthy description and simply tell you that the spectators in the gallery were quite surprised when they suddenly saw me perform a somersault, which might have been perfect - I don't remember - if it had been voluntary and did not left me dazzled..., wide eyed..., sitting on the ice. That day, I made up my mind: I took horse back riding lessons (that is another story). But there was more to follow, life throw things at you sometimes... Several years later in Montreal, some friends suggested we spend a day in Ottawa skating the Rideau canal. You need to know at this point that the Rideau canal is just that, a canal, partly drained during the winter allowing ice to form for the enjoyment of all (or almost all). It also extends several miles without a banister; a very important consideration in my case.

But my "friends" assured me they would not abandon me, so I felt confident.

Everybody knows theory and practice are worlds apart. By the time I finished lacing my borrowed skates, those "friends" were nowhere in sight. What was I to do? I was not going to spend a day sitting on some steps with my skates on, or wait by the car. I bravely gave it another try. I quickly developed a way to stop. Although not a 100 % efficient, the method is good enough for me: when needed, I just sit down for the momentum to cease - I am going to end up there any ways so I might as well do it voluntarily. As for turning, I just turn my feet and hope for the best. 20 Skating ? I have been told mine is very acrobatic but I know it has more to do with another challenging law of physics: balance. Overall I learnt a valuable lesson: never go skating on a lake (I suppose you could say I am suffering from agoraphobia) and I don't go skating with a date.



10242-106 Street - Private Members Club
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From the Editor

by Dennis Cambly



Exactly what is the message you are sending out when you make it so difficult to simply get close to one another? Are you out there attempting to find some utopian dream? The plain fact is that if you want things to work out, the street goes

two ways. It is more often than not, a little give and take, that will untangle the secrets. You don't really think that hiding behind that silly masquerade of being a friend, is going to take you anywhere in this lifetime, do you? Our closeness is measured by the distance we place between each other. When we were children we saw Santa Claus as a wizard who brought us toys once a year. As we grew older we realized that he was only a fantasy of our imagination. The act of giving was the secret behind this character. The one unifying characteristic in any community, or person in that community, is the way in which they give of themselves without thought of a reward or recognition. Once we use this beacon we can find our way through any of the stormy weather in our lives.

You must of course be aware of the takers. They are the ones who never give of themselves, unless they are certain they will end up being the only winner. Whether it is a stupid as a monetary gain or a momentary lapse of

sanity, used by sneaking into the dark corners of your mind. It is only a one way street. One person loses and the other wins. If we let ourselves slide into this abyss the consequences are very real. We can easily begin to place people into "types" and caste them forever into stone.

In this, there is no unity, only the lack of honesty and growth.

You see, we are able to grow by looking into ourselves, and putting a little love into our hearts. Go ahead, and plant the seed of love within yourself and take great care of it, for it will surely wither and die if you do not. With this kind of acceptance you will find that the character within begins to shine and changes begin to take place. Suddenly people are not caste as "types" or by "age" but as another human being who seeks love, companionship or compassion.

We as a community are very small in numbers within our city. So why is it that we caste such a dark shadow on each other. You know, the small talk about who is doing what to who... and why! Instead of taking the inventory of someone else, how about a little

self-searching as to why we do the things we do. Look into yourself and ask the simple question: what motivates me to act the way I do?

Our actions are so clouded by parents, brothers, sisters and friends who can handle us as long as we don't act "that way".

We can be such an embarrassment to them. Imagine having your parents walk in on you, while you are cuddling up to your lover! We are forced to hide our true feelings and mask them with what might be acceptable. We are tolerated and tormented by feelings of having our love extinguished if we continue with this lifestyle.

As long as we take this bullshit we are going to hide deep within ourselves and never move forward or grow.

So what's all this got to do with you?

If you need to ask the question it is time to search for the answer.



Student Bloopers

The Next Generation?

Thanks go to Richard Lederer at St. Paul's School

Intro: One of the fringe benefits of being an English or History teacher is receiving the

occasional jewel of a student blooper in an essay. I have pasted together the following "history" of the world from certifiably genuine student bloopers collected by teachers throughout the United States from eighth grade through college level. Read carefully, and you will learn a lot.

The inhabitants of ancient Egypt were called mummies. They lived in the Sarah Dessart and traveled by Camelot. The climate of the Sarah is such that the inhabitants had to live elsewhere, so certain areas of the dessert are cultivated by irritation. The Egyptians built the pyramids in the shape of a huge triangular cube. The Pyramids are a range of mountains between France and Spain.

The Bible is full of interesting caricatures. In the first book of the Bible, Guinnesses, Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. One of their children, Cain, once asked, "Am I my brother's son?" God asked Abraham to sacrifice Isaac on mount Montezuma. Jacob, son of Isaac, stole his brother's birth mark. Jacob was a patriarch who brought up his twelve sons to be patriarchs, but they did not take to it. One of Jacob's sons, Joseph, gave refuse to the Israelites. Pharaoh forced the Hebrew slaves to make bread without straw. Moses led them to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten commandments. David was a hebrew king skilled at playing the liar. He fought with the Philatelists, a race of people who lived in Biblical times. Solomon, one of david's sons, had 500 wives and 500 porcupines.

Without the Greeks we wouldn't have history. The Greeks invented three kinds of columns - Corinthian, Doric, and Ironic. They also had myths. A myth is a female moth. One myth says that the mother of

Achilles dipped him in the River Stynx until he became intollerable. Achilles appears in the Iliad, by Homer. Homer also wrote the Oddity, in which Penelope was the last hardship that Ulysses endured on his journey. Actually, Homer was not written by Homer, but by another man of that name. Socrates was a famous Greek teacher who went around giving people advise. They killed him. Socrates died from an overdose of wedlock.

In the Olympic games, Granks ran races, jumped, hurled the biscuits, and threw the java. The reward to the victor was a coral wreath. The government of Athens was democratic because people took the law into their own hands. There were no wars in Greece as the mountains were so high that they couldn't climb over to see what their neighbors were doing. When they faught with the Persians, the Greeks were outnumbered because the Persians had more men. Eventually, the Romans conquered the Geeks. History calls people Romans because they never stayed in one place for very long. At Roman banquets the guests wore garlies in their hair. Julius Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The Ides of March murdered him because they thought he was going to be made king. Nero was a cruel tyrrany who would torture his poor subjects by playing the fiddle to them.

Then came the Middle Ages. King Alfred conquered the Dames. King Arthur lived in the Age of Shivery. King Harold mustarded his troops before the Battle of Hastings. Joan of Arc was cannonized by Bernard Shaw, and victims of the Black Death grew boobs on their necks. Finally, Magna Carta provided that no true man should be hanged twice for the same offense.

In midevil times most of the people were alliterate. The greatest writer of the time was Chaucer, who wrote many poems and verses and also wrote literature. Another tale tells of William Tell, who shot an arrow through an apple while standing on his son's head.

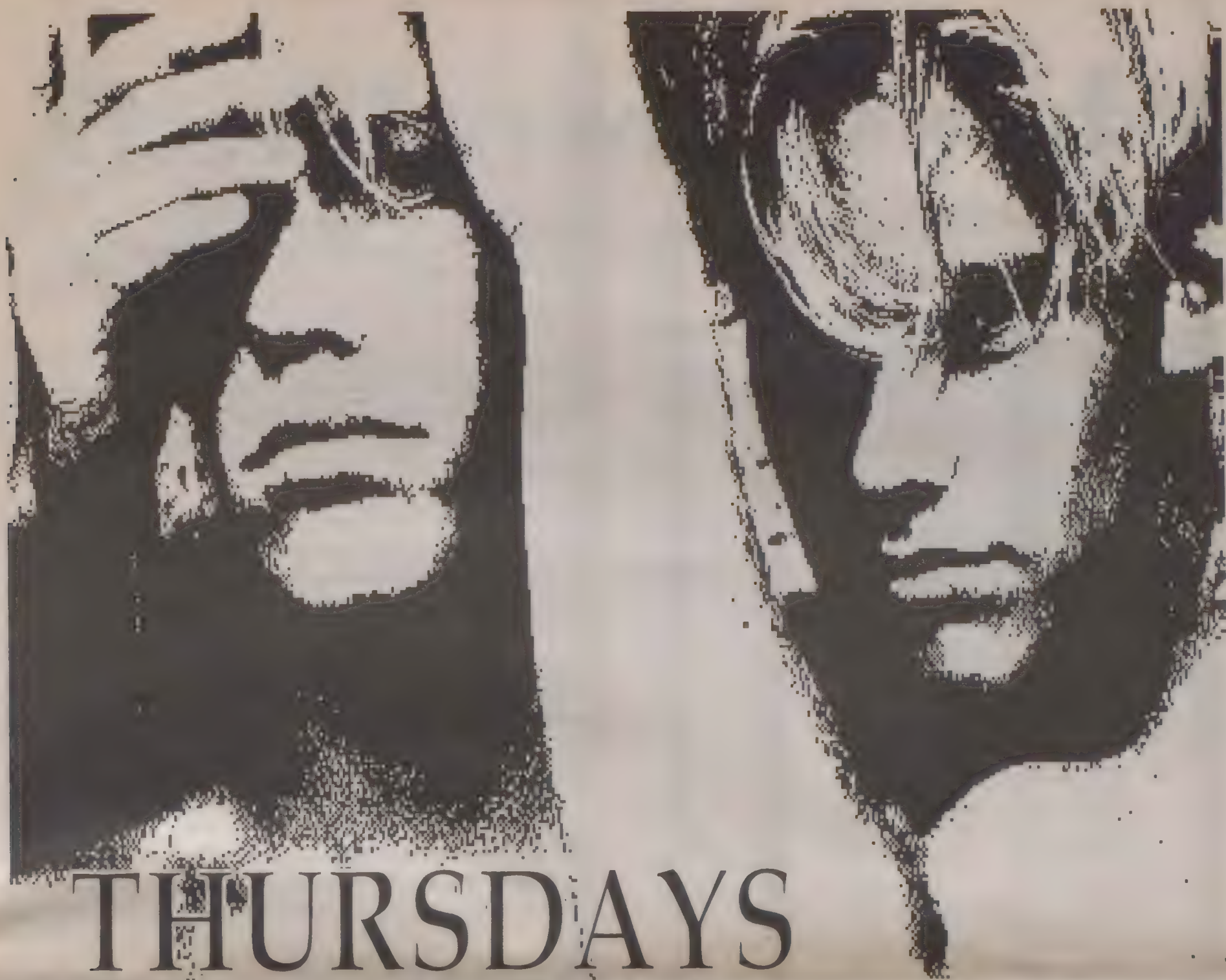
The renaissance was an age in which more individuals felt

the value of their human being. Martin Luther was nailed to the Church door at Wittenberg for selling Papal indulgences. He died a horrible death, being excommunicated by a bull. It was the painter Donatello's interest in the female nude that made him the father of the Renaissance. It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented the Bible. Sir Walter Raleigh is a historical figure because he invented cigarettes. Another important inventior was the circulation of blood. Sir Francis Drake circumsised the world with a 100-foot clipper.

The greatest writer of the Renaissance was William Shakespear. Shakespear never made much money and is famous because of his plays. He lived in Windsor with his merry wives, writing tragedies, comedies, and errors. In one of Shakespear's famous plays, Hamlet rations out his situation by relieving himself in a long soliloquy. In another, Lady Macbeth tries to convince McBeth of a heroic couplet. Writing at the same time as Shakespear was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote Donkey Hole. The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote Paradise Lost. Then his wife died and he wrote Paradise Regained.

During the Renaissance, America began. Chritsopher Columbus was a real navigator who discovered America while cursing about the Atlantic. His ships were called the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Fe. Later, the Pilgrims crossed the ocean, and this was known as Pilgrims Progress. When they landed at Plymouth Rock, they were greeted by the Indians, who came down the hill rolling their war hoops before them. The Indian squabs carried porpoises on their cabooses, which proved very fatal to them. The winter of 1620 was a hard one for the settlers. Many people died and many babies were born. Captain John Smith was responsible for all this.

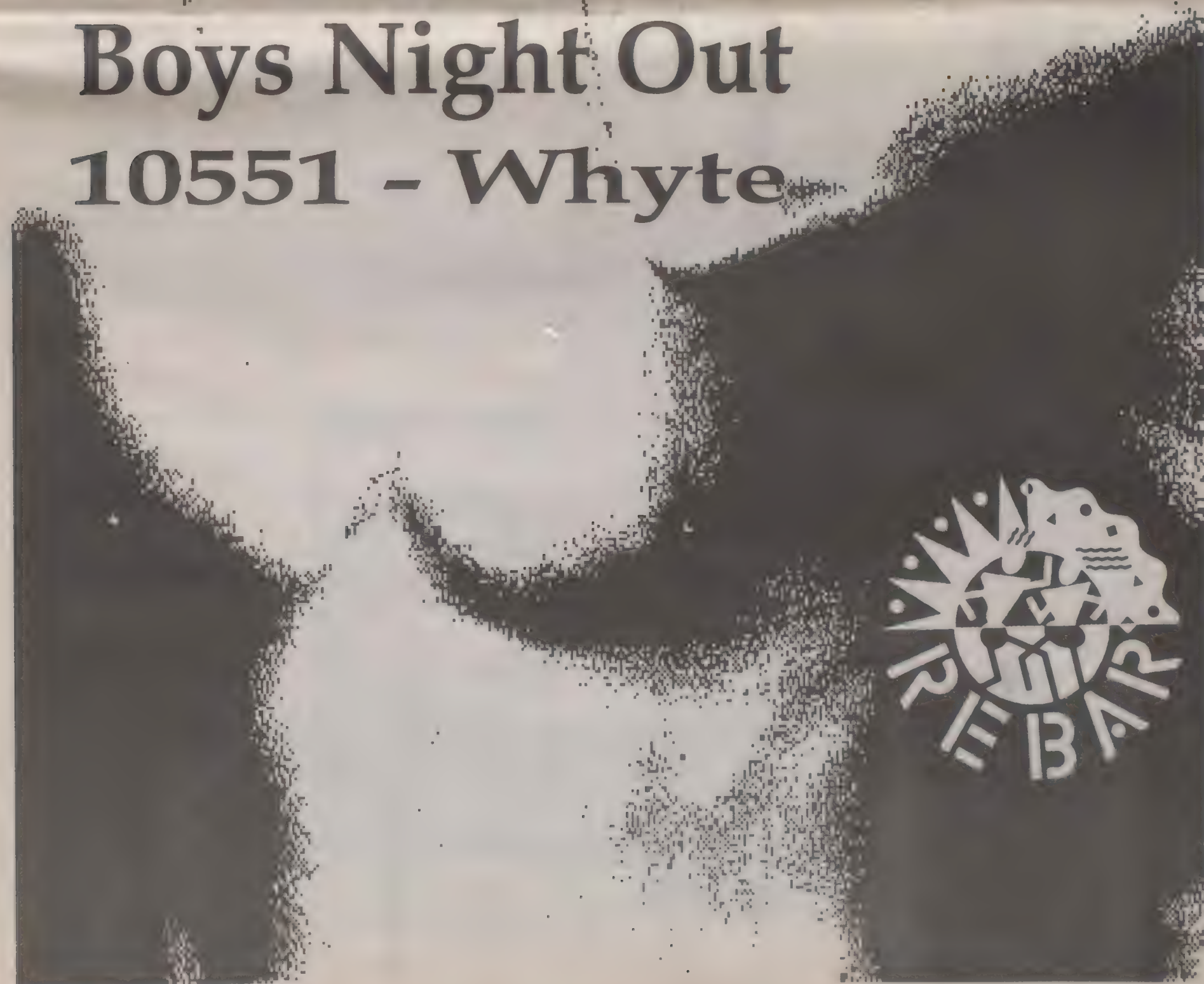
(Lorn Iseke is the assistant editor of Times .10 and is always seeking out humour and stories with a different twist. You can email Lorn at: editor@times10.org.)



THURSDAYS

Boys Night Out

10551 - Whyte



Who's Growers Direct?

GROWER DIRECT FRESH CUT FLOWERS

Oliver Square West

Claude Kulak, Owner / Operator



I started my career at Grower Direct in 1993. I had lots of management and sales experience, but none in the floral industry. I was hired as a manager and outside sales for the store in Academy Place, downtown. I quickly learned what the industry was all about, mainly because Valentine's Day was 13 days after I started.

The floral industry is a business you need to be totally committed to, but if you are creative and enjoy

flowers, it is the most rewarding job you can have.

The owners of the flower shop taught me the basics in floral design and, from there, I was able to progress on my own. I became confident enough to bid on large projects and proving to our customers that our Grower Direct was not like many of the other Grower Direct stores in

Edmonton, who do not do floral arrangements. In 1995, we moved our location to Oliver Square West. We now have ample parking, excellent visibility and lots of walk in traffic. Along with being downtown, we offer 3 delivery times per day.

In September, 1995, I was asked to join Grower Direct head office, here in Edmonton because of my successful track record in sales. I was given 4 stores to get back into the "black". I also set up, and conducted, training seminars for the new store owners, along with 2 training videos.

In January of this year, I was approached by the owners of the Oliver Square store with a proposal to purchase the business. My partner felt it was an excellent opportunity and, on February 1, we purchased the store.

Since then, the sales have soared. We offer a wide range for all floral needs: weddings / commitment ceremonies, funerals, graduations, births, and other occasions. We have a designer employed by us who is a great artist. She can design any type of floral arrangement. We have done work for the Citadel Theatre, City of Edmonton, Provincial Government, many law firms, businesses and associations.

We have also received much support from the community and we thank you very much. I have always enjoyed shopping where I feel comfortable and accepted. We hope everyone who comes into our store will feel the same way. We look forward to seeing you.

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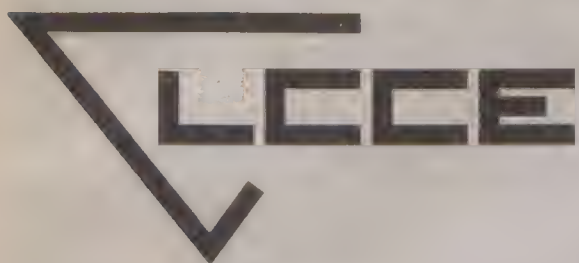
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A Voice From GLCCE

By Fred Dicker



The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Edmonton has enjoyed an eventful and productive time for the last couple of months. In the middle of August, we moved to our new location in Suite 103, 10612-112th Street. On October 6, we held a Grand Opening, which was very well attended. Thank you to everyone who attended.

On August 28, GLCCE had a special general meeting. Our new bylaws were passed, which contained no fundamental changes but revamped the language. These changes were necessary to apply for charitable status. We anticipate no problems with our application, but it will probably take several months. We also elected 6 new board members at this meeting. We now have a board of ten members: Fred Dicker, Sylvia McKinnon, Roxanne Hurd-Pride, Rachel Carmina, Tom Hutchison, Rob Wells, Geoff Williams, Ron Roswell, Rob Cey, and John Gee.

The board wants to work toward making the center more inclusive by encouraging as many community groups as possible to make maximum use of the center, and make it much more of a focus point or hub of the activity in our community. We have established a community day-timer at the center. We would like every group in the community to consult this day timer by phone when they are doing their planning. It is our hope that this will avoid duplication of effort and conflicting events. This information will then be there for us to

put it up on our information telephone line and later, maybe on the Internet. It will be there for groups and individuals who phone the center with the frequently asked question, such as "What is going on this weekend?" We also want to encourage center activity.

We will be starting October 23 to show a community theme movie every Wednesday evening, and have a speaker or discussion group every Thursday evening and encourage people to drop in to visit or play cards etc. on Fridays. There will be no change in our hours of 7 to 10PM, Monday through Friday for our library or peer counselling or just to drop in. If you cannot drop in then phone for information or counselling. We are most grateful for the support we receive from the community, with special thanks going to the Imperial Sovereign Court of the Wild Rose for their significant financial support, and very thankful for the efforts of the volunteers working at the center. However, "Many hands make for light work" **and we need more volunteers, more members and more financial support.**

Call the center, or talk to any board member. The center number is 488-3234 and our Info line is 988-4018.

Remember- Discrimination hinders coming out but coming out hinders discrimination.

Fred Dicker, Male Co-Chair Fred Dicker Chair,

Gay & Lesbian Community Centre of Edmonton Society GLCCE

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We Can Be *Kinda* Sick And Twisted!

(a kind of "off the wall" interview with TAPS)

Q: Why does Edmonton need another ABBA-DISCO-ROCK musical-dancing-transvestite-performing arts troupe?

Peter: I didn't know Edmonton had one?

Teresa: Because you haven't seen anything like us!! What we do is unique & specialized. We are a group of individuals who perform; and perform WELL!!

Q: How and when did your group start?

Peter: Well, we formed this group out of necessity really, at first the group consisted of 4 people, my sister Teresa, Asuncion Perez, Teddy Ah-Piang and myself. We all belonged to a theatre group here in the city and we felt that we were missing something very important. So we decided to fill the empty void with what we had to offer. You know.....Something that would incorporate all aspects of Musical Theatre & any other musical tastes. It seemed that we always were the ones to get things in motion, so I said why not just form a company and do it! We were formed mid 95'.

Q: How many of you are there in the group?

Peter: Basically there are four or five of us that are fixtures, but we keep growing in numbers and in strength. The largest group we've ever had was twenty-three people. We are always looking for more talented performers. In the near future we will be starting some dance training, vocal and performance instruction, which will all be handled by qualified instructors, just to increase the quality of our performances. It is one of my goals for TAP to become one of the best training centers for performing arts here in Edmonton.

Q: What kind of shows have you done?

Teresa: What we do is pure entertainment! So really, we do anything.

Donovan: We've done 2 years at the Fringe, Adult shows, floor shows, many non-profit performances for the major societies, as well as paid gigs for country clubs, dance clubs and our own larger scale musical revues. *There isn't anything we can't do, and it's always done with extreme flair!*

Q: How much do you charge to perform?

Teresa: That depends on what you want, how many performers you want, what the occasion is, etc... It really does depend.

Q: What if I need a transvestite on short notice? Do you have a tranny revue?

Peter: But please be specific, we can be kinda sick and twisted!

Q: Does anyone else in the city do these kind of things?

Peter: I'm sure of it! There's millions of performers out there that do basically what we do. We, however have never categorized ourselves or set ridiculous limits on our capabilities. We cater to everyone's needs. We have an incredibly versatile group that can and will rise to any challenge that is thrown at us.

Q: How was the Fringe this year?

Wes: It went very well! Especially our Adult show/ Cabaret show. Our children's show was also very rewarding. We had the chance to take it to Camp HE-HO-HA and perform it for Children with Cancer and their families. It gave our show so much more purpose.

Q: How far in advance are you booked?

Teresa: As you can see we're into February already. We'll of course be at "B" Scene studios for our third Fringe run, but we squeeze in anywhere and everywhere, so give us a call.

Q: What is the most embarrassing thing that happened to you on stage?

Peter: Oh that's an easy one! He will probably kill me for telling you but you asked. During this year's Fringe festival one of our last-if not the last performance of our children's show, Teresa was singing her song "Dreams To Dream" very

emotional, inspirational little number. So we decided that we would come out on stage and surprise her and just kind of crowd around her. Gave you that warm fuzzy feeling inside. So here we come all nice and quiet and taking our places around her and out comes Terrance all nice and quiet(he was also the last one of us) when suddenly he trips over something on the stage (we found out later he broke the stage) and falls down KA-BOOOM!!!! No kidding, biggest

noise you ever heard in your whole short little life. Well needless to say none of us could keep a straight face not even poor Teresa so she had to finish the number in hysterics. Oh

yeah, Terrance was not seriously injured but I do believe he was a little scraped up and had a couple of bruises.

Q: By the way I guess I should ask ... What is your name? What do we look for?

Richard: (Jim Carrey voice) "We are TAP PRODUCTIONS". For more information on performing or booking call TERESA NUTHALL at 454-4483.

Carla: Got that little buddy. (That outta hold ya for a while!)

Peter: Seriously, if you are interested in booking our group, give us a call. If you would be interested in sponsoring or donating to our group give us a call, it's greatly appreciated. Theatre groups are always in need of money, equipment, costumes and the kindness of others.

Teresa: Thanks for taking the time to get to know us. Oh yeah, back to your question about the fish, after giving it some thought we've decided that we would not be fish but a pod of highly intelligent, beautiful, sociable and of course very friendly and let's not forget totally talented tuna-friendly dolphins. Who knew?!

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HOROSCOPES

BY David Michael



Aries

November begins with you needing to re-evaluate yourself, based on some of the interactions you experienced in October. Your attention to details during this period can advance your income and career potential. You have the energy now to be very self critical and to perfect aspects of yourself that you find do not meet your expectations. Any opportunities to share deeper emotional conflicts with others should be advantageous to you now, providing your objective is to grow, and not just to win. In the latter part of the month, and moving into December, you are provided opportunities for expansion, possibly through travel, certainly through new learnings. The Christmas season will provide tests as to how effectively you are able to transform yourself and grow in these two months.



Taurus

You have a more than usual need to interact with others on a close basis during November, sharing values, and for a few this will manifest as a sharing of finances. During the first half of the month criticism reigns in partnerships. Learn from this, for as December approaches, you have the option to apply change to your behaviors based on feedback gained. You could easily be exposed to new aspects of your mate or close friends in early December, that will challenge your sense of propriety. Use these challenges as guides to where you may be overly rigid and examine your own value system. For you singles, these two months are ripe with opportunities to mate.



Gemini

Although health issues may predominate as November begins, attention to routine and detail will get you through it by the 15th. Vitality increases by the 23rd, and until Christmas, you may be in a whirl of social activity. Relationship potential is high during this period so if you're single and looking, you could now mate well. For those already with a significant other, attention to your partner now will strengthen and intensify the bond. You can learn much from observing others. From Christmas to year end, watch what you say, as you are not at your best. The last ten days of the year are not good for travel, contracts, nor interaction with your siblings.



Cancer

November brings your creativity to the fore, and the new moon on the 11th is a great time to initiate any such project. You could learn much from interacting with children this month. The full moon on the 25th may find you extra busy and feeling like you need to take time for yourself, away from all the demands. Do try, so as not to sicken yourself. In fact, the whole period from then to Christmas could find you overburdened with details that need attention. If you forget yourself in the process your body will likely get sick just to get your attention. Christmas day will be memorable this year, for some through new mates and for others through conflicts that seem insurmountable. If you open yourself more to new people, you're more likely to be in the former group.



Leo

Deep changes in your home and security environment are presaged for the early part of November. The extent of these changes will depend on how much security you are reaping there. Anything that is outmoded should be let go of at this juncture. For a few this may mean a move, for others it may be the loss of a relative, for a few, just the letting go, willingly, of a security blanket. Those of you born in July will have much opportunity and ease from the 23rd to the 27th in career, partnerships, education, and in creative endeavours. Watch for, and avail yourself

of these. Early December provides many creative outlets, and you shine strong until Christmas. From then to the end of the year, critique, both personal and from others, is where you'd best focus your attention.



Virgo

Those born early in this sign, have been under focus for the past few months, with regard to their ability to change within their closest relationships. This focus continues in November, and could easily come to a head during the full moon of the 25th. Most of you, however, find yourself talking up a storm as November starts, and being more social than usual. As the month continues, your attention moves to issues of security and the comforts of your home. As the holiday season approaches, you may find a creative urge struggling to express itself. Giving free rein to this could bring some very practical changes into your life.



Libra

November brings issues of money to the fore for you. For the most part, you can ride this through by being firm with yourself about what you really need, as opposed to what you merely want. The first half of the month sees your wants striving for dominance, but giving in to them too frequently could cost you more than you bargain for. You're more social and self-pleased this month than last, and your appreciation of the good things of life may contribute to your yearning to spend more liberally. After the 24th, this tendency dies down and you head toward the holiday season with a more practical head on your shoulders. The week before Christmas finds you most sociable, but maybe talking more than you'll later wished you had. From Christmas to year's end your emotional security is tested.



Scorpio

You can remake yourself more in November than usual, if you focus your attention on what you do more than who you are. Until the year's end, you have strong potential to set out detailed plans for your future. Set goals and aims, but also outline how you expect to get there. Practicality is high now. Finances are bound to become an issue toward the end of November and moving into the first 3 weeks of December. Curbing your spending may feel difficult during this phase, but will certainly pay off later. For a few, you will have no choice. New ventures begun on the 11th of November should bear fruit by Christmas.



Sagittarius

During the first part of November, you may easily feel the need to get away from it all. This is a good time to reflect and assimilate, reviewing the year since your last birthday. Do not hesitate to throw away those things which are of no value. If you find things torn from you, let go of them freely. By later in the month, or by your birthday, a new cycle begins, and your attention can focus on your own perceived needs. Finances should expand for most of you these two months, but there is strong temptation to spend your resources as fast as they come. Resisting this now will provide more for you next year when you'll need it more. Regardless, the post Christmas season will find the majority of you assessing your resources, and a few of you ruining your holiday spending.



Capricorn

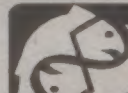
November brings the impetus to set goals, and aiming high is called for. Your home life, or your sources of emotional security, are heavily curtailed during this time period and restructuring at this level is called for during the coming year. Plans need to take this into account. By late in the month you could feel strongly that there is too much sacrifice demanded of you. Letting go of old habits and patterns of behavior which are worn out, is easy for you now, but ensure that you do take time for introspection. As December moves toward the full moon, health concerns may arise if you haven't been able to take some solitude. A new mate or an old friend could show up for many of you at Christmas this year, providing guidance and support in issues

of home and career.



Aquarius

Weird dreams, unusual insights, unexpected events, and, for a few of you, accidents, mark these last two months of the year. November begins with the emphasis on your career or public standing. You are called on to make deep changes in this area, though these are of a more psychological than physical nature. You must now rethink your public persona. The latter part of the month, and the first half of December bring the focus toward setting long term goals. Group activities, especially those where you work as part of a team toward a common goal, are highly favoured now. By Christmas your mood is more introspective, and though you may be overtaxed by others now, it is most useful to take some time alone to ponder where you've been and what you've been doing this year. This is not a time for decision making... so defer any that you can until late January.



Pisces

As November dawns, you are in a learning phase. New concepts and ideas are brought to you through foreigners, travel, or some other mind expanding contact. Your high sense of ideals are augmented through some of these lessons. As the month moves on, you might become more public with what you've learned. Career and image are heightened during the latter part of this month, and into December. Opportunities for attainment are brought to the fore in December, but this is dependent on the clarity of the goals you've set. For many, this will merely bring new objectives to aim for. Finances are still needing to be heavily structured for the next year, so take that into account as you set your aims. Faith is tested throughout these two months, but by December's end, a transcendental experience could have you up in the clouds.

Note: Astrology based solely on SUN SIGN is bound to apply only vaguely to you personally. I recommend a more personalized reading for more accurate and telling information.

You can obtain a personalized horoscope for free from David Michael's Astro Logical Services care of this magazine. Be sure to include, Birthdate, Time, and Place of Birth.

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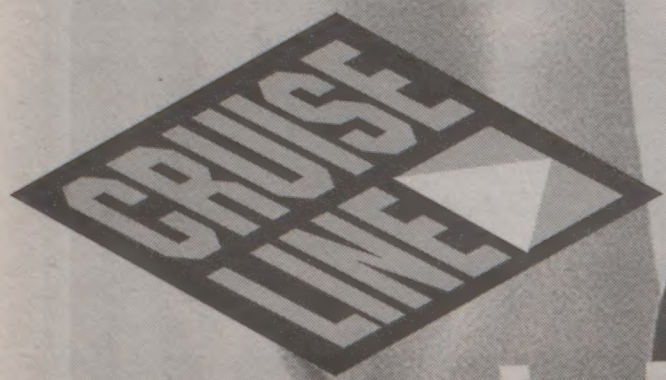
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